

*Amendments to the Claims*

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A foldable keyboard assembly, comprising:

a keyboard comprising a first keyboard segment and a second keyboard segment attached thereto by a first hinge assembly, each of said first and second keyboard segments having a top portion upon which is disposed a plurality of keys and a bottom portion, said first hinge assembly permitting said first and second keyboard segments to be arranged in an open position in which said top portions of said first and second keyboard segments are exposed or in a closed position in which said top portions of said first and second keyboard segments are concealed; and

a carriage coupled to said keyboard, said carriage comprising a back plate, said back plate including ~~a plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces adapted to support for supporting a digital device communicatively coupled to said keyboard and for facilitating compact storage, wherein at least one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces is slidably adjustable to accommodate digital devices of different sizes.

2. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ at least one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces is slidably adjustable to accommodate a personal digital assistant, a tablet computer, or a wireless phone.

3. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces includes a spring-biased brace, a lower brace and a side brace.

4. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said back plate further comprises a ~~plurality of~~ one or more recesses, each one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more recesses adapted to house for stowing a corresponding one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces when said brace is not in use.

5. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said first hinge assembly includes a locking mechanism for locking said first and second keyboard segments in said open position.

6. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said back plate is coupled to said keyboard via a second hinge assembly, said second hinge assembly permitting said back plate to be folded onto said keyboard when said keyboard is in said closed position.

7. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said keyboard further comprises a port adapted to receive a means for communicating with a digital device.

8. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 7, wherein said means for communicating with a said digital device comprises a Universal Serial Bus (USB) cable.

9. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 7, wherein said means for communicating with a said digital device comprises a wireless interface adapter.

10. (Original) A foldable keyboard assembly, comprising:

a keyboard comprising a first keyboard segment and a second keyboard segment attached thereto by a first hinge assembly, each of said first and second keyboard segments having a top portion upon which is disposed a plurality of keys and a bottom portion, said first hinge assembly permitting said first and second keyboard segments to be arranged in an open position in which said top portions of said first and second keyboard segments are exposed or in a closed position in which said top portions of said first and second keyboard segments are concealed; and

a carriage coupled to said keyboard, said carriage comprising

a back plate, said back plate adapted to support a digital device,

an infrared (IR) assembly attached to said back plate, said IR assembly comprising a stem and an IR sensor, said stem being rotatable to align said IR sensor with an IR port of said digital device for IR communication, and

a communication path, said communication path coupling said IR sensor to said keyboard.

11. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 10, wherein said IR assembly further comprises a sensor housing for housing said sensor, said sensor housing being attached to said stem via a hinge.

12. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 10, wherein said back plate comprises ~~a plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces ~~adapted to support for supporting~~ said digital device, wherein at least one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces is slidably adjustable to accommodate digital devices of different sizes.

13. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 12, wherein ~~said~~ at least one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces is slidably adjustable to accommodate a personal digital assistant, a tablet computer, or a wireless phone.

14. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 12, wherein said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces includes a spring-biased brace, a lower brace and a side brace.

15. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 12, wherein said back plate further comprises ~~a plurality of~~ one or more recesses, each one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more recesses ~~adapted to house~~ for stowing a corresponding one of said ~~plurality of~~ one or more stowable braces when said brace is not in use.

16. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 10, wherein said first hinge assembly includes a locking mechanism for locking said first and second keyboard segments in said open position.

17. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 10 wherein said back plate is coupled to said keyboard via a second hinge assembly, said second hinge assembly permitting said back plate to be folded onto said keyboard when said keyboard is in said closed position.

18. (Original) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 10, wherein said keyboard further comprises a port adapted to receive a means for communicating with said digital device.

19. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 18, wherein said means for communicating with a said digital device comprises a Universal Serial Bus (USB) cable.

20. (Currently Amended) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 18, wherein said means for communicating with a said digital device comprises a wireless interface adapter.

21. (New) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said back plate further comprises one or more recesses, each one of said one or more recesses for

stowing a corresponding one of said one or more stowable braces permitting said back plate to be folded onto said keyboard when said keyboard is in said closed position.

22. (New) The foldable keyboard assembly of claim 1, wherein said carriage includes a second support for accommodating a tablet computer or other digital device.

23. (New) A foldable keyboard assembly, comprising:

a keyboard comprising a first keyboard segment and a second keyboard segment attached thereto by a first hinge assembly, each of said first and second keyboard segments having a top portion upon which is disposed a plurality of keys and a bottom portion, said first hinge assembly permitting said first and second keyboard segments to be arranged in an open position in which said top portions of said first and second keyboard segments are exposed or in a closed position in which said top portions of said first and second keyboard segments are concealed;

an infrared (IR) assembly attached to said keyboard, said IR assembly comprising a stem and an IR sensor, said stem being rotatable to align said IR sensor with an IR port of said digital device for IR communication, and

a communication path, said communication path coupling said IR sensor to said keyboard.